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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/784,003

Applicant(s)

MATTHEWS ET AL.

Examiner

ANDREY BELOUSOV

Art Unit

2174

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 September 2008.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6, 8-23, 25-32 and 34-38 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6, 8-23, 25-32 and 34-38 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 9/29/2008
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is in response to the filing of 9/29/2008. Claims 7, 24 and 33 have been cancelled. Claims 1-6, 8-23, 25-32 and 34-38 are pending and have been considered below.

Claim Objections

2. Claims dependent on claim 1 are objected to because of the following informalities: the preamble of claims dependent on claim 1 is directed to "a user interface", the Examiner believes the Applicant meant to direct preamble to "*the* user interface start page." Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claim 1, 2, 8-10, 16-19, 25-28 and 34-38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rathbone (Andy Rathbone, Windows XP for Dummies®, Wiley Publishing, Inc) in view of Ricart (The Complete Idiot's Guide® to Linux, Second Edition) and in further view of Enin (Batch Launcher 1.0 Feb 10, 2003 release.)

Claim 1, 8, 16, 25, 34, 37: Rathbone discloses a user interface start page (pg. 62, initial desktop page + windows bar, etc.) displayed on a display device of a computing device, the user interface start page configured to be displayed: (1) after a user has selected one of multiple selectable logon controls (pg. 63, e.g. Andy Rathbone logon) on a user interface logon page, each of the multiple selectable logon controls corresponding to a respective user of the computing device (pg. 63; transitioning),

However, Rathbone does not explicitly disclose the user interface start page comprising:

- a. the user interface start page configured to be displayed (2) before display of a desktop page corresponding to selections made by the user on the user interface start page,
- b. a desktop selection control configured to allow selection of one of a plurality of desktop environment associated with the user corresponding to the selected selectable logon control from the user interface logon page, each of the plurality of desktop environment corresponding to a different user persona of the user corresponding to the selected selectable logon control, wherein the plurality of desktop environments comprises a work environment, a home environment, a weekend activities environment and a weekday activities environment;
- c. a selectable control configured to initiate that multiple applications start together and in response to a single user input; and
- d. selectable configurations each configured for a user selection to designate a multiple application start-up configuration, wherein the selectable configurations

include at least one of (i) a configuration to designate a group of applications executing when a previous computing session was discontinued, (ii) a configuration to designate a group of applications often selected for use, (iii) a configuration to designate a group of applications recently selected for use and (iv) a configuration to designate a group of applications most used by the user.

Ricart discloses a well-known operating system including a particularly signature concept of multiple desktop selection, including:

- a. the user interface start page configured to be displayed (2) before display of a desktop page (page 67, any one of the four other desktops) corresponding to selections made by the user on the user interface start page,
- b. a desktop selection control configured to allow selection of one of a plurality of desktop environment associated with the user corresponding to the selected selectable logon control from the user interface logon page ("virtual desktop buttons," page 67), each of the plurality of desktop environment corresponding to a different user persona of the user corresponding to the selected selectable logon control, wherein the plurality of desktop environments comprises a work environment, a home environment, a weekend activities environment and a weekday activities environment (the Examiner notes that the virtual desktop buttons can be renamed any way the user wants, including "work", "home," "weekend," or "weekday" so as to correspond to a 'persona'; page 71);

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include a desktop selection controls as disclosed by Ricart,

in the operating system of Rathbone as one would have been motivated to include the best features from other prevailing operating system user interfaces to an improvement an operating system user interface.

Enin discloses a Batch Launcher application for use on an operating (such as Windows XP OS disclosed by Rathbone), including:

- b. a selectable control (Applications list of the batch; page 1) configured to initiate (form the batch; page 1) that multiple applications start together and in response to a single user input (by one click; page 1); and
- c. selectable configurations (batches; page 1) each configured (user formed; page 1) for a user selection to designate (drag and dropping; page 1) a multiple application start-up configuration (batch; page 1,) wherein the selectable configurations include at least one of (i) a configuration to designate a group of applications executing when a previous computing session was discontinued, (ii) a configuration to designate a group of applications often selected for use, (iii) a configuration to designate a group of applications recently selected for use and (iv) a configuration to designate a group of applications most used by the user (it is inherent, given the nature and purpose of the teaching of Enin, that the batches would be made up of at least one configuration consisting of often, recently or most used applications.)

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include controls for multiple application initiation as taught by Enin within an operating system of Rathbone. One would have been motivated to

include the teaching of Enin in Rathbone as it was well within known options given that Enin was running on the OS disclosed by Rathbone.

Claim 2, 9, 17, 26: Rathbone, Ricart and Enin and disclose a user interface as recited in claim 1. Enin further discloses wherein the selectable control is user-configurable to designate a multiple application start-up configuration (page 1.)

Claim 10, 19, 28: Rathbone, Ricart and Enin disclose a user interface as recited in claim 8. Enin further discloses wherein the multiple application programs are a user-defined (by drag and dropping the shortcuts; page 1) group of application programs (set of applications; page 1), and wherein the user interface selectable control is further configured to start (launch; page 1) the user-defined group of applications together (by one click; page 1.)

Claim 17, 26: Rathbone, Ricart and Enin disclose a method and one or more computer readable media as recited in claim 16 and 25, respectively. Enin further discloses comprising receiving a user selection to designate a multiple application start-up configuration (selecting a required batch at Windows® startup; page 1.)

Claim 18, 27: Rathbone, Ricart and Enin disclose a method and one or more computer readable storage media as recited in claim 16 and 25, respectively. Enin further discloses comprising receiving a user selection (drag and dropping shortcuts; page 1) to

configure the user interface selectable control which is user-configurable to designate a multiple application program start-up configuration.

Claim 19, 28: Rathbone, Ricart and Enin disclose a method and one or more computer readable storage media as recited in claim 16 and 25, respectively. Enin further discloses wherein receiving the user selection initiates (forms; page 1) a user-defined group of applications (batch; page1,) and wherein starting (launch; page 1) the multiple applications includes starting the user-defined group of applications together and in response to a single user input (by one click; page1.)

Claim 35, 38: Rathbone, Ricart and Enin disclose a method and one or more computer readable media as recited in claim 34 and 37, respectively. Enin further discloses comprising delaying the start (launch; page 1) of the selected application programs (batch; page 1) until receiving the user input to initiate (drag and dropping; page 1) starting the selected application programs (formation of batches is performed before (delayed) launching (starting) the set of selected application programs (batch; page 1.)

Claim 36: Rathbone, Ricart and Enin disclose a method as recited in claim 34. Enin further discloses wherein receiving the user input to initiate starting the selected application programs includes receiving a user selection that does not correspond to a user-selectable control (use of shortcuts of the batches on the desktop; page 2.)

5. Claims 3-6, 11-15, 20-23 and 29-32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rathbone in view of Ricart, in further view of Enin, and in further view of Langer (Mac OS X 10.1, Visual Quickstart Guide, Peachpit Press, Copyright (c) 2002.)

Claim 3, 11, 20, 29: Rathbone, Ricart and Enin disclose a user interface as recited in claim 1, wherein the multiple applications are a group of applications, and wherein the selectable control is further configured to initiate that the group of applications start (launch; page 1) together (by one click; page 1.) However, Rathbone, Ricart and Enin do not explicitly disclose wherein the multiple applications are a group of applications executing when a previous computing session was discontinued. Langer discloses an operating system comprising a means to start back up a group of applications from before the computer was put to sleep (page 58.) Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include a group of applications executing when a previous computing session was discontinued, as taught by Langer, into the Operating System of Rathbone, modified with Ricart and Enin. One would have been motivated to include previous session applications in order to allow continuation of potentially interrupted task from the previous session.

Claim 4, 12, 21, 30: Rathbone, Ricart and Enin disclose a user interface as recited in claim 1, wherein the multiple applications are a group of applications, and wherein the selectable control is further configured to initiate that the group of applications start

(launch; page 1) together (by one click; page 1.) However, Rathbone, Ricart and Enin do not explicitly disclose wherein the multiple applications are a group of applications often selected for use by the user. Langer discloses an operating system comprising a means to initiate applications often selected for use by the user (page 104.) Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include a group of applications often selected for use by the user, as taught by Langer, into the Operating System of Rathbone, modified with Ricart and Enin. One would have been motivated to include often selected for use by the user applications in order to provide a quick launch of programs that will be most likely needed by the user and in such a fashion meet the anticipation of the user.

Claim 5, 13, 22, 31: Rathbone, Ricart and Enin disclose a user interface as recited in claim 1, wherein the multiple applications are a group of applications, and wherein the selectable control is further configured to initiate that the group of applications start (launch; page 1) together (by one click; page 1.) However, Rathbone, Ricart and Enin do not explicitly disclose wherein the multiple applications are a group of applications recently selected for use by the user. Langer discloses an operating system comprising a means to initiate applications recently selected for use by the user (page 106.) Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include a group of applications recently selected for use by the user, as taught by Langer, into the Operating System of Rathbone, modified with Ricart and Enin. One would have been motivated to include recently used by the user

applications in order to provide a quick launch of programs that will be most likely needed by the user and in such a fashion meet the anticipation of the user.

Claim 6, 14, 23, 32: Rathbone, Ricart and Enin disclose a user interface as recited in claim 1, wherein the multiple applications are a group of applications, and wherein the selectable control is further configured to initiate that the group of applications start (launch; page 1) together (by one click; page 1.) However, Rathbone, Ricart and Enin do not explicitly disclose wherein the multiple applications are a group of applications most used by the user. Langer discloses an operating system comprising a means to initiate applications most used by the user (page 104.) Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include a group of applications most used by the user, as taught by Langer, into the Operating System of Rathbone, modified with Ricart and Enin. One would have been motivated to include most used by the user applications in order to provide a quick launch of programs that will be most likely needed by the user and in such a fashion meet the anticipation of the user.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claim 1-6, 8-23, 25-32 and 34-38 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

6. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Stephen Hong can be reached on (571) 272-4124. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-3800.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Stephen S. Hong/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art
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AB
December 5, 2008